

WHEELING

From a Small Trading Post to a
Great Industrial Centre.

NATURE'S OWN GAS

Lights up Her Hundreds Mills
and Workshops.

NO SMOKE, NO SOOT, NO WASTE.

Quality and Quantity Both on the
Side of the New Fuel.

ALWAYS ABLE TO COMPETE

With the Most Favored in all
Varieties of Manufactures.

UNSURPASSED OPENING

For all Kinds of New Enter-
prizes on Good Sites.

SPLENDID FACILITIES

For Carrying Raw Material and
Products Everywhere.

SOLID MEN OF MEANS

Need not Turn to the Sweet Sim-
plicity of the Three Percents.

INTERESTING SURVEY

Of the Nail City, Her Advanta-
geous Location in Every Way.

ESTABLISHED INDUSTRIES

Of Iron, Steel, Glass, Pottery and
Tobacco, Including "Stogies."

A CITY FAVORED

With Health, Wealth, Low Tax-
ation and the Best Fuel.

SOCIAL ADVANTAGES

In the way of a Splendid Pub-
lic Library and Amuse-
ment Resorts.Through an existence of over a century,
first as an isolated settlement far beyond
the frontier; then as a fort for the pro-
tection of which was fought the last bat-
tle of the Revolution; later a trading
village whose position on the Ohio river
gave her prominence and prosperity; a
town on the great National road; after
that ceased to be the great thoroughfare
between the East and the West, a thriving
city at the western terminus of the Bal-
timore & Ohio railroad, and since a growing
community with increasing facilities
of communication with the world at large--
in this varied existence as village, town
and city, Wheeling has taken no pro-
gressive step and seen no transformation
as promising and important as that which
lies just before her.

The construction of the National road
gave to her an importance she had not
possessed before. Her position as the
point of transfer for the people of the
whole western country from the palatial
steamers which plied the Ohio to the
steaming stages which climbed and de-
scended the slopes of the Alleghenies,
gave her advantages among towns of the
country envied by many a larger sister.
The laying of the Baltimore & Ohio track
to the river assured the continuance and
increase of these advantages, and the city
gradually changed from a trading and
shipping post to a considerable manu-
facturing and mercantile community, and
the little town on the bluff spread out into
a great city with neighboring towns
above and below and across the river.
Gradually she assumed the position of the
metropolis of Western Virginia; and when
from the throes of civil war a new State
was born she was its only city, and she has
remained among the increasing list of
thriving towns of the Mountain State, in
manufacturing and commercial interests
as well as population, far in advance of all
her rivals. She has seen cities grow up in
her suburbs rivaling in importance the
Wheeling of less than a generation ago,
and when her citizens look back over the
record of enterprise and progress increas-
ing with the years, no era stands distinct
in beginning or ending from the years
which preceded or those which followed.

THE WHEELING OF TO-DAY.

Today Wheeling stands on the thresh-
hold of a new era. In former years she
has taken steps forward; now she leaps to
the front at one bound. The substitution
of natural gas for coal as the prevailing
fuel can but work a transformation. The
smoky, sooty town of the recent past and
present will give way to a clear sky, and
her inhabitants will breathe the free, fresh
air of heaven instead of the sulphur and
soot-polluted atmosphere they have been
wont to inhale. It is well, while the
changed condition of things is yet in
its infancy, to take, as it were, a farewell
look at the old Wheeling.

For some reason Wheelingites are
always attached to their home; yet but
few of them know what good reasons exist
to be proud of the old place. A conserva-
tive community, much more metropolitan
in its ways of life than the average city of
35,000 population, it has the faults, not
serious, of a town of slow but steady growth,
and with them the advantages, which are
considerable--solidity, permanence, the
confidence of sister communities.

WHEELING STARTS ON HER NEW ERA OF PROSPERITY

well equipped for reaping the great-
est results from increased advantages. A
solid, substantial city, of gradual growth

with a population of some 35,000, and as
great a population tributary to her and
lying at her doors, with unusual facilities
for business and enjoyment for a city of
her size, she yet has numerous unoc-
cupied desirable sites for manufactures and
room for an increase in all that makes a
city great to thrive her present size. Her
equipment for the safety and comfort of
her people are likewise sufficient for a
much greater population. Her water
works is modern and adequate to supply
a community of 100,000 souls. Her fire
department is efficient and its record un-
surpassed in any city of the country. Her
schools compare in results and in methods
and equipments with those of older and
larger cities, and her churches are live and
active, performing with the numerous so-
briety, charity and temperance. Her
public library can only be improved by
enlarging the number of volumes on its
shelves, and this improvement is contin-
ually made, while the patronage it receives
at the hands of the public speaks forcibly
of the intelligence of the people.

HER COMMERCIAL IMPORTANCE

As a manufacturing centre Wheeling is
well known. As a nail making point she
long ago assumed such pre-eminence as to
win for her the sobriquet of "the Nail
City." For years the superiority of her
coal for fuel in nail making placed her
safely above competition, and in this time
her artisans acquired such special skill
and her manufacturers achieved such a
mastery of the markets that her place as
the Nail City is still secure. Here steel
was substituted for iron in nail making--a
change to which all other localities have
been compelled to follow this city's lead.
Sheet iron, bar iron and almost all the
forms and kinds of iron and steel, are also
made in Wheeling to be sent with her
nails all over the world.In glass the community has an interest
only second to that in nails. Here wares
are turned out from more than half a
dozen factories, exclusive of the score or
so in the neighborhood owned and op-
erated by Wheeling capital, enterprise and
skill, which challenges comparison, for
rare beauty, artistic style and excellent
quality, with the wares of Bohemia itself,
whose glassworkers won their ancient
fame with work not half so creditable as
that with which "Wheeling is delighting
the world. Hundreds of men, adepts in
the most advanced modern processes, find
employment in her glass houses. Her
lamps, her chandeliers, her furniture, are
known and used far and wide. Her iron
and steel is fashioned into thousands of
shapes thousands of miles away. The
queensware for her pottery has won for
the city new laurels as a manufacturing
centre. The skill, the experience, the
tact, the genius of Europe and America
are united in its managers, its artists and
its workmen.HER LEATHER, LIKE HER CALICO, HER IRON
AND GLASS AND CHINAWARE, HAS AN ENVIABLE
NAME IN ALL THE GREAT MARKETS OF THE COUNTRY,
AND WHEREVER IT IS ADVERTISED TO THE
WORLD CONTINUALLY THE SKILL AND INDUSTRY
OF WHEELING TOLLERS AND THE ENTERPRISE AND
HONESTY OF WHEELING MANUFACTURERS.

THE LUXURIES OF LIFE.

The beer from her breweries is quaffed
by the votaries of Gambrinus far and near,
and Bacchus himself might smack his lips
to taste the wines here pressed from the
fruit of the vines which crown these sunny
hills. Her cigars and tobacco soothe the
tired brain of the western worker and
stimulate the fancy of the eastern dreamer.FROM HER WORKSHOPS AND HER SCHOOLS
HAVE GONE THOUSANDS OF ARTISANS AND SCHOL-
ARS TO COMPETE WITH THE SONS OF THE BUSY
WEST AND THE LEARNED EAST, AND IN MILL OR
SHOP OR FORTUN, THEY WIN THEIR WAY IN SPITE
OF COMPETITION.SHE SENDS TO THE NORTH AND SOUTH
AND EAST AND WEST LONG TRAINS BURDENED
WITH THE PRODUCTS OF HER SHOPS AND FORGES;
THE FRUITS OF THE INDUSTRY AND SKILL OF HER
WORKERS FLOAT ON MANY A MIGHTY CRAFT.
NO STATION ON ALL THE VAST SYSTEM OF THE BAL-
TIMORE & OHIO RAILROAD COMPANY EAST
OR WEST--NOT EVEN LOUPT CITY ITSELF, THE
GREAT IMPORTING STATION--FURNISHES MORE
FREIGHT TO THAT COMPANY FROM YEAR TO YEAR
THAN WHEELING; AND THIS IS BUT ONE OF THE
HALF DOZEN ROADS BRINGING AND TAKING
FREIGHT, WHILE THE OHIO RIVER, NOT NAVI-
GABLE ABOVE WHEELING THROUGH HALF THE
YEAR, FLOATS ALMOST HALF AS MUCH AS IS CARRIED
BY ALL THE RAILROADS CENTERING OR
TOUCHING HERE.

HER ADVANTAGES.

It is on this foundation, then, that the
superstructure of a new and greater
Wheeling is to be built. All the advan-
tages which make a location eligible for
new industries are possessed by the city
in an eminent degree. The established
business brings all the benefits of com-
petition, of advertising abroad, of attrac-
tions to buyers. The shipping facilities
are unsurpassed, and the rates are as rea-
sonable as competition and heavy traffic
can make them. The risk by fire is nota-
bly small, strikingly in contrast with
ordinary records elsewhere. The community
is peaceful, conservative and law-abiding.
In all the agitations and troubles between
labor and capital in 1877 and in 1884-5,
Wheeling witnessed no disturbance. Her
banks are secure, having withstood the
effects of panics and periods of depression,
and shown a balance on the right side of
the sheet when elsewhere the financial
fabric seemed tottering to ruin, and crash
followed crash.WHEELING IS THE CENTRE AND METROPOLIS
NOT ONLY OF A VAST AND POPULOUS MANU-
FACTURING SECTION, BUT AS WELL OF ONE OF THE
RICHEST AGRICULTURAL REGIONS ON THE FACE OF
THE GLOBE, AND HER MARKETS ARE NOWHERE
SURPASSED IN ABUNDANCE, VARIETY, QUALITY
AND CHEAPNESS OF ALL THE NECESSARIES OF
LIFE. THE POOR MAN'S DOLLAR WOULD GO AS FAR,
THE RICH MAN'S PURSE COMMAND AS NUMER-ous and as rare luxuries here as in any of
the favored centres of population.

For recreation the facilities are beyond
what could reasonably be demanded.
Wheeling's park has won fame to far
corners of civilization, without any of the
artificial celebration in vogue in many
places. Her annual State fairs rival
those of the largest and wealthiest States,
the drama is well patronized, and the city
has the name of being one of the best
show towns of its size anywhere; securing
in consequence the best class of stars and
combinations at her two theatres. Her
musical societies have won high honors
in competition with those of cities famous
for their culture in the arts. Her social,
political and other societies are open to
those of kindred minds, and in entertain-

ing guests or mutual benefit and enjoy-
ment are active and liberal.

The town is built in one of the most
charming sections of the Ohio Valley, a
valley whose beauty early won for it the
river the poetic name of *La Belle Riviere*--
whose lovely and varied scenery so moved
the stoical Red Man that he called the
stream "Ohio"--"the Beautiful." Wheel-
ing, hemmed in by lofty and picturesque
hills, is surrounded within reach of an
avenue's drive by pastoral scenery which
might well animate the poet's fancy or ex-
cise the artist's skill, and all about her
lie historic and legendary spots, associ-
ated with heroic and romantic incidents of
the early history of the nation.

Even in the city's borders her paved
streets--already adopted elsewhere andknown as "the Wheeling pavement"--
offer enjoyable drives. The conveniences
of street cars and telephones, cheap illu-
minating gas and the electric light, a hos-
pitable, enterprising and liberal popula-
tion, refined society, good newspapers,
in short all that makes modern civilization
admirable and life in this generation to be
desired, Wheeling has. The advantages
of natural gas, the latest beneficent gift of
Providence to the human race, she enjoys
with the favored section about her. It is
with reason that her people anticipate a
great and glorious future, when the hon-
orable achievements of her past will be
outdone, her usefulness and fame in-
creased, and her position among the first
cities of the continent secured.

The Suspension Bridge.

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